

160

LET the Reader know, that whereas the Bookseller hath in the Catalogue of my Books, named my [*Holy Commonwealth, or Political Aphorisms*] I do hereby recall the said Book, and profess my Repentance that ever I published it, and that not only for some by-passages, but in respect of the *secondary* part of the *very scope*. Though the *first* part of it, which is the defence of God and Reason I recant not.

But this Revocation I make with these proviso's, 1. That I reverse not *all the Matter* of that Book, nor all that more than ONE have accused; As e.g. the Assertion that *all humane Powers are Limited by God*: And if I may not be pardoned for not defying DEITY and HUMANITY, I shall prefer that ignominy before their present *Faustus* and Triumph, who defie them.

2. That I make not this Recantation to the Military fury and rebellious pride and tumult, against which I wrote it; nor would have them hence take any encouragement for impenitence.

3. That



329

3. That though I dislike the Roman Clergies writing so much of Politicks, and detest Ministers meddling in State matters without necessity, or a certain call; yet I hold it not simply unbeseeming a Divine, to expound the fifth Commandment, nor to shew the dependance of humane Powers on the Divine; nor to instruct Subjects to obey with judgement, and for Conscience sake.

4. That I protest against the judgement of Posterity, and all others, that were not of the same TIME, and PLACE, as to the (mental) censure, either of the BOOK or the REVOCATION; as being ignorant of the true reasons of them both.

Which things Provided, I hereby under my hand, as much as in me lyeth, *reverse* the Book, and desire the World to take it as *non-Scriptum*.

April. 15.

1670.

R. B.

May it please Yo^d Hono^r

16407

Yo^d Lord^s is pleas'd to press me in Yo^d last, with many Arguments, to y^e reception of Mr W. Martin into our College. I assure Yo^d Lord^s I have as little will as power to contest with Yo^d Honour much less his Ma^{ty} about this business. But only before I proceed therunto, I presume to let You know, that I have severall things (if I mistake not) of some moment to offer to Yo^d Lord^s consideration, w^{ch} I cannot so well acquaint Yo^d L^d with by letter, as by my personall attending upon You; w^{ch} I shall readily doe, w^{ch} Yo^d L^d please to appoint me time and place. I am at present so unhappily crowded with occasions almost insupportable, that, if a beggar may be chooser, I would request Yo^d Honour to respite my attendance till y^e week after y^e next, when (I suppose) You will return with His Majesty to London. My Lord, if what I have to say be reason, I am well assur'd Your Lord^s will be concluded by it; if it be not, nothing will be lost but a very little time, & Yo^d Lordship's patience to heare me. In confidence of w^{ch} small favour, I remaine

(May it please Yo^d Lord^s)

Corpus Christi Col.
April. 15.

Yo^d L^d's most humble & affecti-
onate Serv^t



Jo. Spencer.